



Security Council

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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 3 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 16 and 31 December 1999 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Government of the Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft
and damage caused, 16-31 December 1999

1. In the northern region 54 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1230 hours on 24 December 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out eight missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Aqrah and Tall Afar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1150 hours on 29 December 1999 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1310 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1100 hours on 30 December 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1510 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1105 hours on 31 December 1999 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 130 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 0730 hours on 26 December 1999 United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out six missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Salman, Ushbayjah, Lasaf and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0800 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 0740 hours on 27 December 1999 United States and British F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 12 missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0830 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 0755 hours on 28 December 1999 United States and British F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out eight missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Ushbayjah, Lasaf, Ukhaydir and Ma'aniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0845 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0955 hours on 29 December 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 46 missions, 32 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Salman, Basrah, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Hayy, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1530 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0950 hours on 31 December 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 58 missions, 40 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 18 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Salman, Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Basrah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Samawah, Amarah, Rumaythah, Nasiriyah and Qurnah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1100 hours, drove them off.
